

Memo to: **Nantucket Board of Selectmen:** Whitey Willauer, Michael Glowacki,
 Brian Chadwick, Doug Bennett, Michael Kopko, and
 Town Administrator, Libby Gibson

F r o m: Allen Reinhard, Chairman, **Roads and Right-of-Way Committee**

Subject: **A plan for takings in Surfside**

Recently, the Roads and Right-of-Way Committee met and reviewed a plan for takings in Surfside (the “Surfside Six Plan”) presented by Planning Director Andrew Vorce. This plan, tentatively agreed to in 2003, was examined by our committee to explore road and right-of-way issues. Several Surfside residents were in attendance and commented favorably on the plan. A history of the development of the plan was reviewed, and specific advantages to the Town, to the six property owners involved (often referred to as the Surfside Six), to residents of the area and the community at large were pointed out and discussed.

After further discussion, the committee agreed that **significant benefit to the Town** would come from the guaranteed, uncontested public access in perpetuity to beaches at this portion of Surfside, as proposed in this plan. Property owners would benefit from having beach right-of-ways defined, resolution of legal issues regarding liability, and title problems relating to the existence of paper roads which could be extinguished with property being transferred to abutters in some cases and the property being added to the tax roll. Agreement between the Town and property owners would resolve issues concerning roads and right-of-ways dating back to original plans of subdivision drawn up in the 1880’s. **Resolution would be a major achievement for the Town of Nantucket.**

If the parties can be brought together, a permanent resolution of right-of-way issues could be achieved which would benefit the community at-large. It seems that all parties are aligned and in agreement that a final resolution establishing public rights-of-way to this beach area at Surfside is achievable, and in the best interests of the property owners, the Town, residents of the area and the community at large.

Therefore:

The Roads and Right-of-Way Committee, at our meeting of July 12, 2006, upon a motion made and seconded, **voted unanimously to recommend** that the Board of Selectmen direct all necessary parties to meet and focus on the resolution of any outstanding issues concerning the Plan for takings at Surfside involving the so-called Surfside Six property owners, prior to August 31, while property owners are likely to be on island. We urge you to direct the appropriate personnel and resources of the Town to see if a settlement can be agreed to and signed by Labor Day.

Allen B. Reinhard, Chairman, Nantucket Roads and Right-of-Way Committee